

Peshtigo and Northeast Wisconsin, it was a defining moment for generations. On that fateful night, the village of Peshtigo lost nearly half its residents, with many more traveling lumberjacks killed in the fire. Estimates believe that roughly 700 Peshtigo residents lost their lives as the city was consumed by flames. Hundreds more perished in the surrounding communities. Flames descended upon the city of Peshtigo so rapidly that it was described by eyewitnesses as a roaring tornado of unbearable intensity and heat. The Peshtigo River, which runs directly through the city, did little to stop the flames from darting over the waters, and survivors, realizing they were trapped, had no other choice but to leap into the river. Within hours, nearly the entire city was reduced to rubble.

Though often overshadowed by the Great Chicago Fire which began the same night, the Great Peshtigo Fire claimed at least five times the lives and over 500 times the acreage. But in the face of this unprecedented destruction, the people of Peshtigo and the surrounding communities came together to rebuild and restore. Today, Peshtigo is a vibrant community with schools, parks, wineries, and museums, all held together by the grit and character of the Peshtigo people that has defined the city for generations. It is my hope that through this proclamation, the Great Peshtigo Fire will receive the proper recognition it deserves not only as a somber tragedy and the deadliest fire in U.S. history, but as a trial that displayed the tremendous resolve of the Wisconsinites who rebuilt the city of Peshtigo to even greater heights. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of this body to join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of the Great Peshtigo Fire of 1871.

RECOGNIZING KATHRYN “KATIE”
HOLLOWAY ON HER
PARALYMPIC GOLD MEDAL

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kathryn “Katie” Holloway of Lake Stevens, Washington on her fourth Paralympic medal and her second gold medal for Team USA in Sitting Volleyball. Ms. Holloway has helped shape the Sitting Volleyball program since she first competed in 2008. Her strength and determination are clear not only in her performances as a four-time Paralympian, but as a four-year Division I athlete on her college’s basketball team.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Holloway, an incredible athlete, role model, and teammate on her gold medal at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. I could not be happier that the next generation of athletes has role models like Ms. Holloway to look up to and pave the way.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, a free press is the cornerstone of a free society. Without it, democracy cannot thrive.

But freedom of the press is under assault around the world.

Journalists face persecution, detainment, torture, and even death for simply doing their jobs.

My amendment will empower the U.S. to hold accountable those who perpetrate crimes against journalists by prohibiting assistance to culpable governments.

Named for Jamal Khashoggi—whose brutal murder still goes unpunished—this will ensure America stands with journalists against those who would seek to harm them.

We must pass it.

In doing so, we will honor Mr. Khashoggi’s legacy and protect the cornerstone of our own democracy by sending a clear message: the U.S. will not turn a blind eye to the abuse of journalists.

HONORING COLONEL BRADLEY D.
MOSES FOR 26 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bradley D. Moses for 26 years of military service and leadership in defense of our Nation.

Col. Moses was commissioned in 1995 as a member of the 82nd Airborne. He went on to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment before joining the 3rd Special Forces Group in 2002. From 2016 to 2018, he served as Commander of the 3rd Special Forces Group where he was responsible for the guidance and training of over 2,600 soldiers.

Colonel Moses’s devout service to our nation’s protection and security are worthy of high praise. His promotion to the position of 3rd Special Forces Group Commander is indicative of his exceptional performance and leadership skills. As Commander, Col. Moses directed successful military operations as the 3rd Special Forces Group underwent an important period of transition. He also served as an advisor to other regiments and command groups. Most notably, he worked in tandem with the leaders of the 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne) and the Special Operations Command Africa on local affairs to assist them in carrying out objectives. Furthermore, Col. Moses’ actions as commander demonstrate his steadfast commitment to values of honor and respect that are paramount to all outstanding servicemen. Out of respect for soldiers who fell in the line of duty under his command, he saw that all 3rd Special Forces Group Gold Star Families were invited to and honored at any Group events. Finally, Col. Moses has twice been recognized and

awarded the prestigious Legion of Merit Award. This distinctive honor serves as a pinnacle achievement in his career and is further testament to his extraordinary leadership and moral character.

On behalf of North Carolina’s Eighth District and our entire country, I would like to extend my most heartfelt appreciation to Colonel Moses for his indispensable service and leadership as a soldier and officer in the U.S. Army. I know I speak for our entire community in wishing him and his family continued success and happiness as he moves into retirement.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Colonel Bradley D. Moses for 26 years of service and leadership in the U.S. Army.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Member, who is my designated proxy, did not submit my vote as instructed on September 23, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Rollcall No. 289, En Bloc No. 3 to H.R. 4350, National Defense Authorization Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF FORMER MAYOR DORIS FLORES LUJAN

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of former Mayor Doris Flores Lujan. Mayor Lujan was an esteemed leader, devoted public servant, and true advocate for the People of Guam. Our people will fondly remember her as a formidable voice who led with compassion, served from the heart, and aspired to cultivate a greater quality of life for Inalåhan residents and our larger island community.

Mayor Lujan was a political pioneer elected to serve her home village of Inalåhan for eight years. First assuming her role in 2013, she was the first and only woman mayor of her village. With priorities to elevate village infrastructure and restore public facilities while expanding services for manåmko’, veterans, and persons with disabilities, Mayor Lujan demonstrated an admirable resolve to bring tangible solutions to those in need. Further, she embodied a kind of leadership that honored both our land and people with a mission to utilize government resources for protecting the beauty of our island and preserving a thriving Chamoru culture and heritage.

Mayor Lujan’s compassion and commitment to serving others extended far beyond just the People of Guam. Prior to her tenure as mayor of Inalåhan, she spent 42 years as a Secretary of the Base, Wing and Communications Squadron Commander, Base Records Manager, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Manager, Privacy Act (PA) Officer, and Deputy of

Base Information Management at Andersen Airforce Base. Over the course of her distinguished career, Mayor Lujan supported countless special projects including the historic evacuation and resettlement of refugees from Vietnam in "Operation New Life," Department of Defense civilians from the Philippines in "Operation Fiery Vigil," and the Iraqi Kurds in "Operation Pacific Haven." Moreover, her fidelity to service was a choice undetermined by official titles or acknowledgment. In addition to her day job and ministry work at Saint Joseph Church, she also dedicated much of her time to nonprofit and volunteer organizations such as the Guam-Micronesian Games, Guam Special Olympics, and American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Mayor Lujan is an icon of selfless service who continues to inspire great leadership for many throughout our island. As a proud son of southern Guam, the value of inafa'maolek she instilled in the work she pursued resonates deeply with me, and I join the People of Guam in remembering and celebrating her life and legacy of unwavering commitment to others. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for Mayor Doris Flores Lujan, her family, and friends. She will be dearly missed, and her love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the People of Guam.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I believed that I voted on final passage of H.R. 4350 before leaving for the evening. However, my vote was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on Roll Call No. 293.

HONORING DR. ROBERT L. GREEN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a pioneer for civil rights in East Lansing, Dr. Robert L. Green.

In 1964, Dr. Green broke barriers as the first African American to own a home in East Lansing. As he tells it, after finishing his PhD, he was a young, tenured Black professor at Michigan State University.

His students in the School of Education would come to him with problems—like the fact that Black students were being turned away at the barbershop in the Union building. As soon as he heard about it, Dr. Green went to the President of MSU, John Hannah, and, together with the student, the three of them marched down to the Union and personally desegregated the barbershop.

Stories like these are a dime a dozen with Dr. Green. He's been a lifelong champion for equality and he's never met a problem he couldn't solve. He worked at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)—marching for voting rights in Mississippi and bringing his boss, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to speak on campus.

And yet, despite his achievements, when he and his wife, Lettie, were looking to buy a home, they would arrive at a house knowing it was available—only to be denied due to the color of their skin. Dr. Green's tenacity was clear from the start, and he wouldn't let the prejudice of the day win.

It was only after President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order banning housing discrimination that Dr. Green and Lettie sued the Lansing Board of Realtors to have their chance. When they won their case, the Greens became the first couple in the Nation to use the executive order's authority to purchase a home.

Visitors to that home included the highest levels of the SCLC, from Ambassador Andrew Young to Coretta Scott King. Recently, a group of civic leaders worked with the Michigan Historical Society to approve a historical marker that commemorates that groundbreaking first house.

And just last month, it was announced that the elementary school that taught Dr. Green's children will soon be renamed to commemorate his lifelong commitment to communities of color. As the elected representative for East Lansing, I'm proud to recognize him today, in the People's House, so that his legacy may live on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, on Roll Call No. 286, on Agreeing to the Amendment offered by Mr. LANGEVIN of Rhode Island No. 42, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 289, on Agreeing to the Amendment offered by Mr. SMITH of Washington En Bloc No. 3, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I was unable to make the vote on the amendment to H.R. 4350 offered by Mr. LANGEVIN. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 286.

REGARDING MY VOTE ON H.R. 4350

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, while I voted for H.R. 4350, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, I would like to note that this authorization is imperfect. I remain opposed to the provision that would

require young women to register with the Selective Service. The primary function for conscription under the Military Selective Service Act is to quickly replace front line fighters after sustaining casualties. I admire and support the women who have volunteered to serve in our Armed Forces, however, I remain opposed to the conscription of our daughters as it has the potential of hindering the country's combat readiness during a time of war. Selective Service shouldn't be a social experiment and our country isn't advancing women's equality by requiring them to be conscripted into combat during a time of war.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 23, 2021, I regret not being present for one vote session. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on the Bowman of New York Part C Amendment No. 105 to H.R. 4530, Roll Call No. 287.

RECOGNIZING AARON KEITH ON HIS PARALYMPIC SILVER MEDAL

HON. SUZAN K. DeBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Ms. DeBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aaron Keith of Woodinville, Washington on his first Paralympic medal. Mr. Keith is a prolific cyclist, who started competing his senior year of high school. He went on to average 30 to 40 competitions a year as a collegiate athlete at the University of Virginia and later as a member of a cycling club in Charlottesville, VA. After suffering a biking accident and undergoing multiple surgeries, Mr. Keith was left with residual paralysis. As he recovered, Mr. Keith began researching para-cycling and went on to train diligently and join the U.S. Paralympic Cycling National Team in 2013.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Keith, an incredible athlete, teammate, and community member on his silver medal in the men's C1 time trial. He has left an indelible mark on para-cycling and the program at Team USA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding a vote I missed on September 23, 2021. Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 284 to H.R. 4350, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, I would have voted no. I do not believe that a 10 percent across the board reduction in funding, as this amendment proposed, is a responsible way to reduce spending.